

NEWS RELEASE

September 4, 2025



Ribbon Cutting Reopens Mara Lake Section of the Splat'sin te Secw'epemc / Shuswap North Okanagan Rail Trail

Community celebration with ferry shuttles from downtown Sicamous; light luncheon to follow.

ENDERBY & SICAMOUS, B.C. — Trail partners are pleased to announce a community ribbon cutting to celebrate the reopening of the Splat'sin te Secw'epemc / Shuswap North Okanagan Rail Trail along Mara Lake, beginning at Kilometre Bridge and accessible at **km 0.5**.

The celebration takes place **Wednesday, September 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** The **Sicamous Ferry Society** will provide shuttle service across the Narrows from downtown Sicamous to the ribbon-cutting site at **km 0.5**. A light stand-up luncheon will follow at the **Sek'emaws Health Centre** in Sicamous, hosted by leadership from **Sicamous Economic Development** and the **Sicamous Ferry Society**.

How to Attend

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



- **Park:** Please use one of the new Sicamous parking lots on **Finlayson Street** or **Main Street** just off **Riverside Avenue**.
- **Shuttle:** Walk or bicycle south down Riverside Avenue to the **Martin Street ferry shuttle** for transport across the Narrows to the event site at **km 0.5**. Note: there is **NO** public parking on Martin Street.
- **Timing:** Shuttles operate between **10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.** for the event.

The Sicamous Ferry is expected to run through September and, with community support, may continue further into the fall, ensuring ongoing access to **km 0.5 of the Rail Trail**. Donations to help keep the ferry running are gratefully accepted on site.

Enjoy the Trail — Safety & Etiquette

Public access for **walking** and **bicycling** is open along this section. **Pedal-assist e-bikes** are permitted. Please:

- Yield to pedestrians and keep cycling speeds to **30 km/h or less**.
- Stay on the trail, obey all signage, and **use at your own risk**.
- Watch for hazards and poison ivy along trail edges.
- A temporary toilet is located at the **km 2.8 Folland Road** rail-trail crossing.
- **No motorized vehicles** are permitted, except those authorized for maintenance.
- There is currently **no access south of Mara Lake**; construction within the **Agricultural Land Reserve** remains **on hold**.

Construction & Next Steps

Further erosion repairs are required along this section and will proceed in the fall/winter once environmental reviews are complete and low-water window permits are in place. Due to the delayed construction of the R.W. Bruhn Bridge on Highway 1, **full access from Sicamous to the rail trail is anticipated in 2027**.

A Public Information Bulletin with access details, maps, and construction updates is available at shuswapnorthokanaganrailtrail.ca. We thank everyone for their patience and continued support as we work toward completing the Rail Trail.

For media inquiries, please contact:

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